



NJSEA AWARDED USDOT GRANT FOR SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL INITIATIVE

*Authority Will Use Federal Funding to Create Meadowlands Action Plan for Safety to Reduce Traffic
Crashes in Meadowlands District Municipalities*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

(Lyndhurst) -The New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority (NJSEA) has received a United States Department of Transportation Grant to develop a Meadowlands Action Plan for Safety (MAP4S) to boost safe streets for users of transportation systems in the Meadowlands District. The resulting safety plan will recommend projects to reduce serious and potentially fatal crashes for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders and promote the Vision Zero initiative, a traffic safety policy that aims to entirely eliminate traffic fatalities. The regional action plan will be the first safety blueprint for the Meadowlands District, which is comprised of portions of 14 municipalities in Bergen and Hudson counties.

“Improving safety in this heavily-trafficked, dense region is a critical initiative that will greatly protect and enhance the well-being and quality of life for all who drive, bike, and walk through the Meadowlands District,” said Vincent Prieto, President and CEO of the NJSEA. “The NJSEA is proactively acting on an issue that is among the most important cited by public and private stakeholders through our recent outreach efforts. The Safe Streets and Roads for All project will positively impact the thousands of people that traverse the Meadowlands daily.”

The NJSEA will collect input from public stakeholders, compile crash data, and assess crash locations and land use. Through this evaluation process, the agency can provide a plan for its constituent municipalities to recommend and prioritize future safety projects. These may include proven, innovative, highly effective, and low-cost methodologies. For instance, the Authority could assess the correlation between crash frequencies and severities of vulnerable users of the system (pedestrians and bicyclists), particularly those within underserved communities.

“I am pleased that the NJSEA has received critical, federal USDOT grant funding towards improving and enhancing safety measures within one of the busiest transportation systems in New Jersey,” said State Senator Paul Sarlo. “Reducing serious accidents and casualties will have a great effect and bring peace of mind to motorists and others that navigate the Meadowlands.”

“This program is especially significant given the increase of e-commerce and warehouse facilities throughout the Meadowlands District,” said Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation. “As the regional economy continues to grow, we must be cognizant of people’s safety on our roads, including major highways as well as local streets. This project will do just that.”

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law established the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary program to fund regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. Through the first round of the SS4A grant program, the USDOT distributed \$800 million in grant awards for 510 projects across the United States. The NJSEA was awarded \$877,600.